Report on '**Conjunction of Science and Business**' at the 2016 MOS – International Trade and Business Fair

Thank you to the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport (MIZŠ) and all participants at the 'Conjunction of Science and Business'

As a representative and manager of the 'Conjunction of Science and Business' project at the 2016 MOS, I must first thank the MIZŠ, **Minister Dr Maja Makovec Brenčič** and particularly **mag. Urban Krajcar, Director-General of the Science Directorate**, who supported this project from the start and believed in its successful implementation, for their trust and support.

The 'Conjunction of Science and Business' is a successful MIZŠ project which responded to the needs of the present and served as a significant platform for realising the smart specialisation strategy. Sixteen different development, research and educational institutions and fourteen technologically-focused companies participated in the project. The 'Conjunction of Science and Business' gained significance and credibility due to the directors of certain institutions, Dr Jadran Lenarčič (Jožef Stefan Institute), Dr Gregor Anderluh (National Institute of Chemistry), Dr Tamara Lah Turnšek (National Institute of Biology), the rectors of the universities in Ljubljana, Maribor and Nova Gorica and numerous deans of various faculties.

Visit of Dr Maja Makovec Brenčič, Minister of Education, Science and Sport, Dr Jadran Lenarčič, Director of the Jožef Stefan Institute, Prime Minister Dr Miro Cerar, Zdravko Počivalšek, Minister of Economic Development and Technology, and many other esteemed guests, including foreign representatives.

The 'Conjunction of Science and Business' emphasised the following fields: electronics, mechatronics, automatics, robotics, energy, ICT, bionics, new materials, nano- and biotechnologies, smart textiles, space technologies and others. A 'bionic man' used for training future bionic engineers was introduced for the first time, the first such development project in Europe. I am the conceptual designer of this project, in which Ptuj College of Bionics and the INTRI company were involved in its development, and which will later also include other institutions, faculties and high-tech companies.

In particular, the 'Conjunction of Science and Business' featured high-tech innovations which evolved in the development and research spheres and also in the business sector, or were the result of cooperation between the academic and scientific spheres and the advanced and development-focused business sector. It is no coincidence that the Jožef Stefan Institute cooperated with various other scientific branches, and the National Institute of Chemistry in Ljubljana cooperated with different laboratories. Some of the most outstanding innovations came from the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science of the University of Maribor and the Faculty of Electrical Engineering of the University of Ljubljana. The most noteworthy contribution came from the Faculty of Natural Sciences and Engineering of the University of Ljubljana, which featured smart and

intelligent textiles that were the result of Slovenian knowledge and cooperation with partners at various institutions and also the business sector.

What made the 'Conjunction of Science and Business' so different from other presentations at the international fair? The answer is rather simple; the conjunction brought the development and research spheres together with the business sector, and introduced high-tech innovations and new technologies. It attracted an exceptionally high number of educated young visitors, numerous representatives of eminent and successful companies, and a television crew from TV Slovenia, which produces a very interesting programme, *Ugriznimo v znanost* (Let's Bite into Science).

Visit of Dr Maja Makovec Brenčič, Minister of Education, Science and Sport.

View of the 'Conjunction of Science and Business' stand.

Team of scientists from the Jožef Stefan Institute presented high-tech innovations.

TV Slovenia filmed a clip for the programme, *Ugriznimo v znanost.*

A gold award was presented by the expert committee to the MIZŠ and the 'Conjunction of Science and Business'.

More than 125,000 visitors came to the 2016 MOS – International Trade and Business Fair, which featured over 1,500 exhibitors from 35 countries.

The 'Conjunction of Science and Business' stand at the 2016 MOS.

Official presentation of the gold award to the MIZŠ and the 'Conjunction of Science and Business'.

Institutions participating in the 'Conjunction of Science and Business':

Jožef Stefan Institute
National Institute of Chemistry in Ljubljana
National Institute of Biology in Ljubljana
University of Maribor
University of Ljubljana
University of Nova Gorica
FERI – Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science of the University of Maribor
Faculty of Electrical Engineering of the University of Ljubljana
Faculty of Medicine of the University of Maribor
Faculty of Natural Sciences and Engineering of the University of Ljubljana
Ptuj College and Ptuj School Centre
Centre of Excellence NAMASTE
Centre of Excellence on Nanoscience and Nanotechnology – Nanocenter
Centre for Technology Transfer and Innovation at the Jožef Stefan Institute
Slovenian Innovation Hub – European Economic Interest Grouping
Competence Centre – Innovative Metal Materials

Companies and associations:

SkyLabs d.o.o.
EKOSEN d.o.o.

PS d.o.o. Logatec
Dobre rešitve d.o.o.
INTRI d.o.o.
Cosylab d.d.
Makro Team d.o.o.
MIEL Elektronika d.o.o.
Nanotul d.o.o.
EUREL d.o.o.
TECES – Maribor
National Instruments Slovenija
ROTO d.o.o.
Ultrasonic audio technologies

Thank you to the MIZŠ and all partners participating in the 'Conjunction of Science and Business' project.

*Report prepared by **Janez Škrlec**, Member of the Science and Technology Council.*